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OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM

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~~PREGNANT~~
~~DECLASSIFIED~~

NY DOI 70-17

B-14

BSC/Ops/154

Berlin

24 Sep 1947

TO : Chief, Foreign Branch "M"
FROM : Chief of Station, Heidelberg, Germany
SUBJECT: CAMISADE's Russian Case Officers
REF : BSC/Ops/147

1. At the regular weekly visit of CAMISADE's Russian case officer on 13 September 1947, CAMISADE was called on by Maj ANTONOV, another Russian officer, and a male interpreter CAMISADE had not previously met. CAMISADE was told ANTONOV was departing on four weeks' leave and the other officer would take over in his absence. This officer, a Capt "PETROV", is described by CAMISADE as young, blond, unintelligent looking. He was wearing civilian clothes. The interpreter CAMISADE described as large, dark, probably Jewish, fat. He spoke remarkably fast in German which was excellent except for sentence structure.

2. ANTONOV had told CAMISADE on 30 August that PREGNANT would be out of Berlin for two months, and that he, ANTONOV, would take over in PREGNANT's absence (cf BSC/Ops/146). This rapid turnover in case officers is unprecedented, particularly when taken in conjunction with CAMISADE having been contacted by still another "Major" on 6 September. (In connection with CAMISADE's complaints with regard to insufficient food being received from the Russians: cf BSC/Ops/147).

3. On 11 or 12 September, CAMISADE, in the company of Fri KAHNKE (cf BSC/Ops/147), met PREGNANT by accident in the Stettiner Bahnhof (Russian Sector of Berlin). He spoke briefly with PREGNANT, who told him he was in Berlin only for the day. On Saturday CAMISADE, not mentioning his encounter with PREGNANT, asked ANTONOV if PREGNANT had as yet left Berlin. ANTONOV answered that PREGNANT was still in Berlin, and that he would not depart for a few more days.

Field Comment: (1) It is difficult to imagine what serious purpose PREGNANT and/or ANTONOV would have for lying to CAMISADE about PREGNANT's presence in Berlin. In all probability it is nothing more than an operational expedient to prevent CAMISADE from knowing his case officer is being changed. It will be interesting if it develops that ANTONOV's story of leaving on a four weeks' leave is a similar expedient and the Capt PETROV, of apparently lower caliber, proves to be CAMISADE's new, permanent case officer.

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(2) It should be pointed out that up to this date we have never been able to tie in any of the Soviet intelligence officers identified in the SAVOY and CAMISADE series with the MGB Operational Sector Berlin. That is to say, outside of our own sources we have not obtained any corroborative evidence linking PREGNANT, CHERNIKOV, GONTCHAROV, ANTONOV, PETROV with any specific section of the Operational Sector; this leads us to believe that most likely they are operating under aliases. This in turn would reflect the comparatively high standards of operational security known to be maintained by the operatives of MGB Sector Berlin. Until some major defection in the same class with that of KRAVCHENKO enables us to form a clearer picture of the structure and key personnel of MGB Sector Berlin, we shall continue groping in the dark in trying to determine the level of penetration achieved in Operations SAVOY and CAMISADE.

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G.L.P.

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